

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following headings before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line

4:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(1) Field of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

One is familiar, in particular for the dispensing of pharmaceutical products, with the use of devices of the aerosol type (e.g., FIG. 1, 10), in which the product is dispensed by means of a propellant gas. For ecological reasons, the propellants used previously, which were generally CFC-based, have been replaced by other propellant gases, and in particular propellant gases of the HFC-134a or HFC-227 type. It turned out that this change of the propellant gas gave rise to various stresses on the seals (e.g., FIG. 1, 20, 30, 40), whether regarding the sealing effectiveness of the said seal, or regarding extractible substances, when the said seal was in contact with these new propellant gases. It so happened that the seal materials normally used in aerosol valves (e.g., FIG. 1, 50) in conjunction with CFC gases could not be applied easily to the new propellant gases. Various materials were therefore developed for use with these HFC gases. Of these materials, ethylene propylene (EP) and ethylene propylene diene monomer (EPDM) turned out to be appropriate materials. Another problem that arises with HFC gases, is that when they are used with a latent solvent, such as ethanol for example, there is a tendency for the alcohol, which is less soluble in the liquid phase of the HCFs, to separate out, thus exposing the seals to a higher concentration of alcohol than has been the case previously with the CFC gases. Ethylene

propylene and ethylene propylene diene monomer have also proven to be appropriate materials for solving this problem.

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 32:

(2) Description of Related Art

Please insert the following heading before the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 1:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following heading, paragraph, and heading before the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 30:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional view of a fluid product aerosol dispenser.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS